

The President's Daily Brief

30 November 1972

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THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

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PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

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South Vietnam

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Nearly two weeks after Juan Peron's return to Argentina, both he and President Lanusse are trying to contain differences within their own camps.
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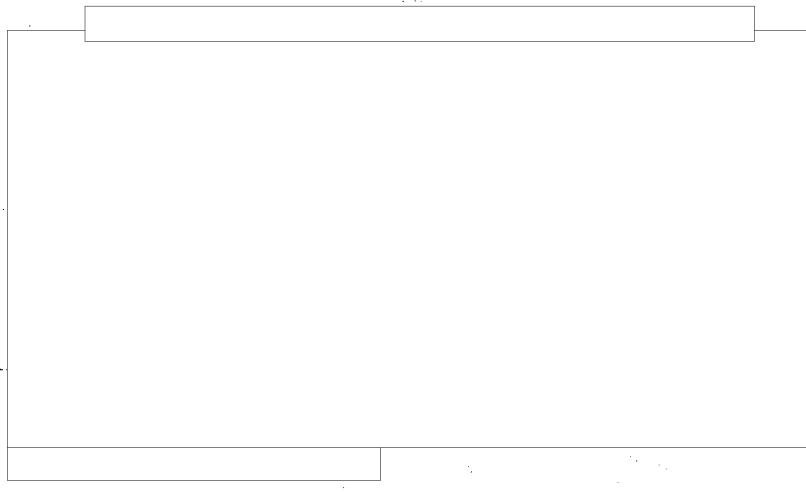
The Chinese apparently are extending their road net in northwestern Laos. (Page 3)

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SOUTH VIETNAM



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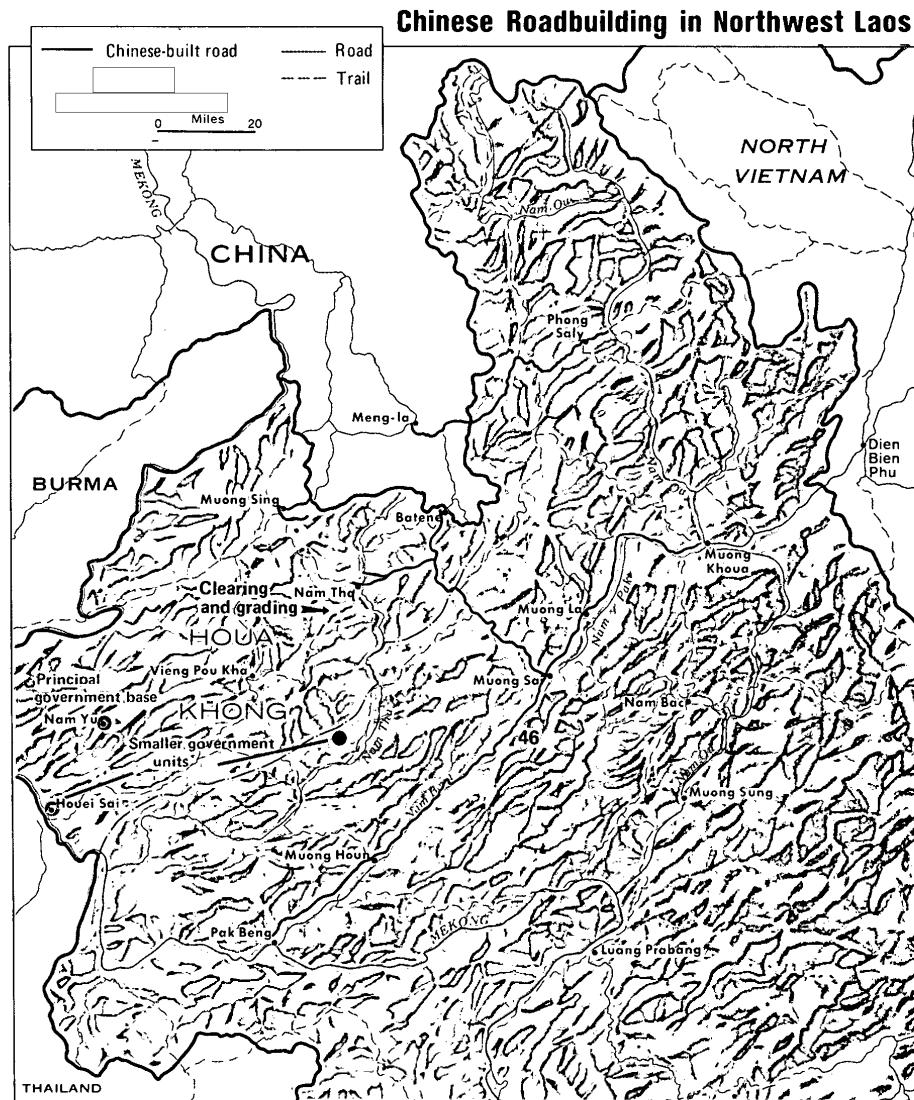
ARGENTINA

Within the interparty working group Juan Peron has organized, each member party is pressing hard for the adoption of its own position. The group three times changed the negotiating points it sent to the government. Peron has managed to stay above the haggling, but serious ideological differences are said to be surfacing among his own coterie of advisers.

President Lanusse's adroit handling of events in the past two weeks has smoothed over some of the differences within the armed forces aroused by Peron's arrival and the freedom he has been accorded. Nevertheless, top generals blame Peron for the lack of progress toward a political agreement and are urging Lanusse to curb his activities.

The real test of strength will come when serious negotiations begin on the designation of presidential candidates for the elections next March: The key point of contention is the Peronists' demand that the government rescind its decree barring from the race anyone who was not in the country on 25 August.

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NOTES

China-Laos: The Chinese apparently are extending their road net in northwestern Laos. Recent photography shows intermittent clearing and grading along the alignment of old Route 3 extending southwest from the border town of Nam Tha. Preliminary construction has already covered 12 miles, half the distance to Vieng Pou Kha, a former refugee center which the Pathet Lao overran two weeks ago. In addition, work continues on a segment from Muong Sing to Nam Tha and on Route 46 north of Pak Beng on the Mekong. The Chinese still have made no move to go beyond Pak Beng.

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